

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method in a communication apparatus for maintaining an established connection between said communication apparatus and a network node of a serving communication network, comprising the steps of:

receiving an acceptance message from said network node in response to a request message relating to a first procedure transmitted to said network node;

determining whether any request relating to a second procedure is pending; and,

transmitting to said network node, if any request is pending when said acceptance message is received, a maintaining request for maintaining said connection, wherein the step of transmitting said maintaining request is executed if the pending request is received after the request relating to the first procedure is transmitted and before said acceptance message is received.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the maintaining request is incorporated into a response message, which is transmitted in response to receiving said acceptance message.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the response message is an acknowledgement message.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of maintaining said established connection until the connection is no longer in use.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the established connection is a packet switched or a circuit switched signaling connection.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method is comprised in a mobility management protocol of a wireless communication interface of the electronic communication apparatus, and wherein a mobility management unit handles the signaling to the network node.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second procedures are mobility management procedures.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the maintaining request is a Follow-On Request (FOR).

10-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A control device for a communication apparatus for maintaining an established connection to a communication network, the control device being adapted to issue a request to maintain said connection, comprising:

receiver means arranged to receive an acceptance message in response to transmitting a request relating to a first procedure; and,

issuing means arranged to issue, if any request relating to a second procedure is pending when said acceptance message is received, a maintaining request for maintaining said connection, wherein said issuing means is arranged to issue said maintaining request if the pending request is received after the request relating to the first procedure is transmitted and before said acceptance message is received.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The control device according to claim 17, wherein said issuing means is arranged to incorporate the maintaining request into a response message, and arranged to issue said response message in response to receiving said acceptance message.

20. (Original) The control device according to claim 19, wherein the response message is an acknowledgement message.

21. (Previously Presented) The control device according to claim 17, comprising a memory for storing a mobility management protocol of a wireless communication interface, according to which the requests are transmitted, and the acceptance message is received.

22-33. (Cancelled).

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